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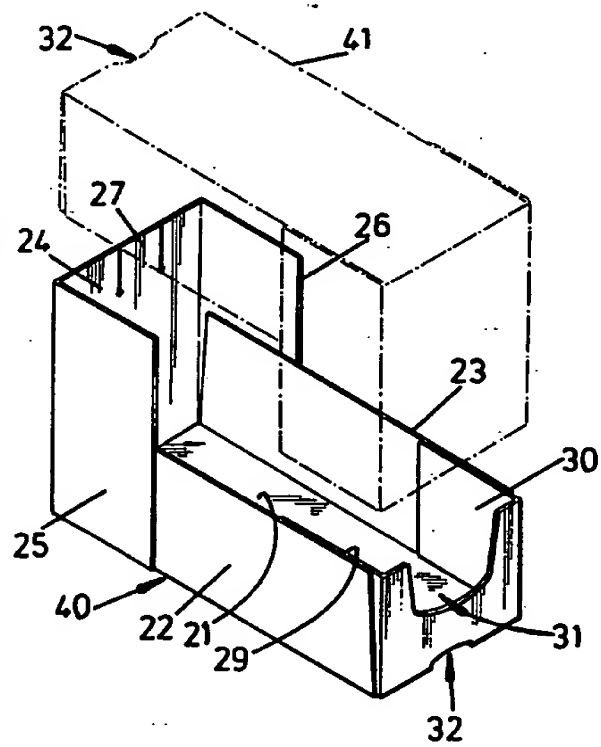
(57) Abstract

A hooded tray (40) and a blank (20) for manufacturing such a tray (40), the hooded tray (40) comprising two open topped trays (40, 41) having opposed product containing and enclosing side and end walls (24). The two trays are assembled together into a closed transport configuration with the open top of one tray (40) facing the open top of the other (41). Each of the trays (40, 41) presents an upstanding wall arranged, when the trays are assembled, to make wall-to-wall contact with a side (22, 23) or end wall (24) of the other tray. This enables the two trays to be easily located relative to each other.



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HOODED TRAY

This invention relates to trays or cartons (hereinafter simply referred to as "trays").

The invention is particularly concerned with trays which are employed both for transporting products to, for example, a sales point and for displaying the products at the sales point for consumer purchase purposes.

Such trays are known as hooded trays and in the transport condition the trays are assembled in closed configuration while in the display condition the tray is either modified by tearing, splitting or cutting off part thereof for example, to provide an open configuration, or part of the tray is discarded to provide the open configuration.

Another known form of hooded tray is one in which there is a display tray wholly enclosed in a separate closed configuration transport tray, which is disadvantageous in that two distinct and separate components require to be produced which is costly insofar as tooling and materials are concerned.

Known hooded trays are generally satisfactory for transport purposes, but when they are used for display purposes, they are often unsightly and/or do not readily permit easy access to the contained products, or, alternatively, inadequately contain the products at the sales point.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a hooded tray which obviates or mitigates the aforesaid disadvantages.

In its broadest aspect a hooded tray according to the present invention comprises two open-topped trays having opposed product-containing and/or enclosing side and end walls and being adapted for detachable open top-to-open top assembly into a closed transport configuration with one at least of the trays presenting an upstanding wall adapted, when the trays are assembled, to make wall-to-wall contact with a side or end wall of the other tray for location or nesting purposes.

As a result there is provided an easily and readily assembled hooded tray which protectively encloses the contained products during transport and which is easily and readily adapted for display purposes merely by disengaging and discarding the hood tray leaving the

products attractively and securely contained in the display tray which can be disposed on a shelf or elsewhere at a sales point.

Preferably, said one tray has opposed upstanding side walls between which an end of the other tray is engaged or nested when the trays are in assembled closed configuration.

Preferably, the opposed upstanding side walls are bridged by an upstanding end wall against which the end of the other tray abuts when engaged or nested between the opposed side walls.

Alternatively each tray has an upstanding end wall or an upstanding side wall adapted for wall-to-wall contact with an end or side wall of the other tray in assembled closed configuration of the trays.

Preferably each tray has an upstanding side wall adapted for wall-to-wall configuration with a side wall of other tray in the assembled closed configuration, the upstanding side walls being at opposite sides and opposite ends of the assembled hooded tray.

Preferably each upstanding side wall has an adjacent upstanding end wall to provide for each tray an upstanding L-shaped locating configuration for an end of the other tray, the upstanding L-shaped locating configurations in the assembled hooded tray being oppositely-handed.

According to a preferred aspect of the present invention there is provided a hooded tray comprising two identical open-topped trays, each having opposed product containing and/or enclosing side and end wall, and each having, at one end, an upstanding locating or nesting wall adapted, when the trays are assembled in open top-to-open-top closed configuration, to make wall-to-wall contact with a wall of the other tray.

Preferably each tray has at one end two opposed upstanding side walls between which, in assembled condition, the other end of the other tray is engaged or nested.

Preferably each other end of each tray is narrower in width than its said one end to facilitate said engagement or nesting, i.e. in plan view each tray tapers slightly inwardly from said one end to its other end.

Preferably the two opposed upstanding side walls of each tray are joined or bridged by a correspondingly upstanding end wall,

whereby, in side elevation, each tray is of L-configuration, and, in plan view, each tray at one end has a socket configuration defined by its opposed upstanding side walls and end wall.

Preferably each tray is formed of board or a board composite, e.g. board with a plastics layer, or any other convenient material.

Preferably each tray is formed from a blank erectable into tray form.

Consequently, each hooded tray is preferably formed from two, preferably identical, blanks.

An advantage of a hooded tray formed from two identical blanks is that only a single tool or tool assembly is required to manufacture the blanks.

The opposed upstanding side walls of each tray may extend half of the length of the tray so that in the assembled hooded tray the edges of the upstanding side walls of the trays abut.

This provides for stacking strength so that packed hooded trays can be safely stacked one on top of another without risk of damage to the contained products.

Preferably opposed side walls of each tray are recessed or are cut out so that in the assembled hooded tray a window is formed in each side whereby the contained products can be readily viewed and/or inspected.

Preferably each tray is provided with a dividing wall or partition parallel with its side walls and extending for half, or substantially so, of the length of the tray, the dividing walls or partitions in the assembled hooded tray abutting end-to-end to divide the interior thereof into two separate side-by-side areas.

Preferably the dividing walls or partitions are centrally disposed to provide two equal side-by-side areas.

Preferably the hooded tray is produced ready glued so that each end wall is secured to both side walls in a manner that allows the side and end walls to be folded flat.

Another aspect of the present invention is a blank for erection to a tray adapted for assembly into a hooded tray, the blank comprising a main panel constituting the top or bottom of a hooded tray, two opposed side wall panels integral with the main panel at opposite sides thereof, an end wall panel integral with one end of the

main panel and having opposed lateral securing flaps, an end wall panel integral with the other end of the main panel and having opposed lateral securing flaps, the length of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps being greater than the length of the former end wall panel and its securing flaps, and the width of the latter end wall panel being greater than the width of the former end wall panel.

Preferably the sum of the widths of the main panel and the two side wall panels is the same as the sum of the widths of each end panels and its respective lateral securing flaps.

Alternatively, the sum of the widths of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps is greater than the sum of the widths of the main wall panel and the two side panels and is greater than the sum of the widths of the former end wall panel and its securing flaps.

Preferably, in the alternative arrangement, the sum of the widths of the main panel and the two side panels is equal to the sum of the widths of the former end panel and its securing flaps are of the same width.

The side wall panels and the securing flaps of the latter end wall panel may be recessed to define window areas in the tray formed by the erected blank.

The side wall panels, for a first part of their lengths, are of greater width than for a second part, the sum of the widths of the first parts of the side wall panels and the main panel is equal to the sum of the widths of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps, and the latter end wall panel has integral therewith partition flaps adapted, in the assembled blank, to be contiguous, lie inboard of the latter end wall panel, and be parallel with the side wall panels.

Preferably the former end wall panel is recessed to provide a viewing or access area in the tray formed by the assembled blank.

The main panel may have chamfered corners with the side wall panels having end securing flaps and the securing flaps of the latter end wall panel being foldable to provide for chamfered corners in the tray formed by the erected blank.

The main panel may be wider than the former end wall panel and narrower than the latter end wall panel.

The lateral securing flaps of the latter end wall panel may be foldable about fold lines arranged to intersect the adjacent corners

of the main panel such that the lateral securing flaps may be folded double between the main panel and the latter end wall panel, and the side wall panels may be foldable about fold lines arranged to intersect respective corners of the main panel adjacent the former end wall panel, cut outs being provided to enable the folding flat of the blank after securing the side wall panels to the lateral securing flaps.

The blanks may be machine erected or hand erected.

The display tray and the transport tray of the hooded tray are preferably adapted to be easily and readily discernible one from another. For example, they may be of different colours and/or patterns or may simply be clearly marked "TOP" and "BOTTOM".

They may be temporarily glued or otherwise secured together in the hooded tray condition, the securing connection preferably being readily frangible.

A convenient hole, recess or cut out may be provided in the region of the securing connection for ease of access to break the connection.

There may be more than one frangible securing connection between the trays of a hooded tray.

The side walls of each tray may be of uniform depth or varying depth or of irregular or regular varying depths provided the edges of the trays meet in the hooded tray save where a window is provided.

The board employed is preferably of multi-layered construction with two outer flat plain layers sandwiching a middle corrugated layer.

Embodiments of the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Figs. 1 to 5 are plan views of different blanks for erecting to form trays according to this invention.

Fig. 6 is an exploded perspective view of a hooded tray formed from Fig. 1 blanks;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a closed hooded tray made from either Fig. 1 or Fig. 2 blanks.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a closed hooded tray made from Fig. 3 blanks;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a tray erected from a Fig. 4

blank;

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of a tray erected from a Fig. 5 blank;

Fig. 11 is a plan view of a further blank for erecting to form a tray according to the present invention; and

Fig. 12 is a perspective view of a tray erected from the blank of Fig. 11.

Referring to Fig. 1 of the drawings, the blank 20 comprises a main panel 21 which reduces slightly in width from a fold line F1 at one end to a fold line F2 at its other and opposed end.

A side wall panel 22, 23 is connected to a respective side of the main panel 21 at fold lines F3 and F4 respectively.

A long end wall panel 24 is connected to the main panel 21 at the fold line F1 and side flaps 25 and 26 are secured to respective sides of the end wall panel 24 at fold lines F5 and F6 respectively.

A flap 27 is formed in the centre of the end wall panel 24 at its outer edge by slits S1, S2. The purpose of this flap 27 will be described later.

The slide flaps 25, 26, it will be noted, are separated from the corresponding side wall panels 22, 23 by cut-outs C1, C2 respectively.

A short end wall panel 28 is secured to the main panel 21 at fold line F2 and side flaps 29 and 30 are secured to respective sides of the end wall panel 28 at fold lines F7 and F8 respectively.

A recess or cut-out 31 is formed centrally of the end wall panel at its outer edge for a purpose to be described later.

Like the side flaps 25, 26, the side flaps 29, 30 are separated from the side wall panels 22, 23 by cut-outs C3, C4 respectively.

A hand hole 32 is formed centrally of the end wall panel 28 at the fold line F2.

It is to be noted that the overall width of the blank 20 is constant.

The blank 20 is formed of multi-layer board, namely two outer flat plain layers sandwiching an inner corrugated layer.

The aforesaid blank 20 is erected to form a tray 40 (see Fig. 6) by folding side flap panels 22, 23 about fold lines F3, F4 to a vertical disposition; by folding the end wall panel 28 and its side flaps 29, 30 about fold lines F2, F7 and F8 respectively with the side flaps 29, 30

lying inside and alongside side wall panels 22, 23 respectively, the side flaps 29, 30 being glued or otherwise secured to the side wall panels 22, 23; and by similarly folding the end wall panel 24 and its side flaps 25, 26 about fold lines F1, F5 and F6 respectively with the side flaps lying outside and alongside the side wall panels 22, 23 respectively, the side flaps 25, 26 being glued or otherwise secured to the side wall panels.

The erected tray 40 is, in side elevation, of L-configuration and, in plan view tapers slightly inwardly (narrows in width) from end wall panel 24 to end wall panel 28.

The height of the end wall panel 24 and side flaps 25, 26 is twice that of the end wall panel 28 and the side flaps 29, 30.

A tray 40 serves as a display tray and is loaded with product, for example packets or bottles (not shown), and an identical and inverted tray 41 (see Figs. 6 and 7) serves as a transport tray and co-operates with the tray 40 to form a hooded tray 42 of closed configuration.

The assembly of the trays 40, 41 is facilitated by the end-to-end tapering of each tray to allow the narrower end of each to be slidably spigotted into the wider open socket end defined by the upstanding or longer end wall panel 24 and side flaps 25, 26.

The trays 40, 41 when assembled in hooded tray configuration 42 may be temporarily glued or otherwise secured together under one or both flaps 27, the temporary connection being broken by simply pulling on the flap or flaps 27, the hand hole 32 facilitating gripping the flap 27.

The recess or cut-out 31 in the display tray 40 assists viewing of the product and eases removal especially when the tray 40 is fully packed.

The display tray 40 is preferably a different colour, or is differently patterned, or is otherwise visually distinguished from the transport tray 41 so that top and bottom of the hooded tray 42 are easily discernible.

Various modifications may be made and in this connection reference is made to Figs 6 and 7.

In a first modification, the end wall panel 24 and its side flaps 25, 26 of the display tray 40 are the same height as end wall panel 28

and its side flaps 29, 30, and the end wall panel 24 and side flap 25 or 26 of the transport tray 41 are the same height as the end wall panel 28 and its side flaps 29, 30, the side flap 26 or 25 being the same length as is shown in Fig. 1 so that in the transport tray 41 there is one upstanding long side flap which, in the assembled hooded tray 42, will lie alongside either side wall panel 22 or 23 and can be used for securement purposes by gluing or otherwise at the wall-to-wall contact.

In this modification, the recesses or cut-outs 31 may be omitted and the end-to-end tapering of the trays is not necessary, i.e. the trays can be of constant erected width from end-to-end.

Alternatively, the long side flap is on the display tray 40 instead of the transport tray 41.

In a second modification both the display tray 40 and the transport tray 41 are of the same construction as the transport tray of the first modification, i.e. one long side flap, and in the assembled hooded tray the long side flaps are on opposite sides and at opposite ends of the hooded tray.

In this modification also the recesses or cut-outs 31 may be omitted and the trays may be of constant width from end-to-end.

In a third modification, the transport tray can again be the same construction as the transport tray of the first modification save that in this case the end wall panel 24 is the same length as shown in Fig. 1 so that only side flap 25 or 26 is the same length as the end wall panel 28 and its side flaps 29, 30. With this construction the transport tray 41 embraces the display tray at one side and an end and securement of the two trays can be effected at the side and/or at the end by gluing or otherwise. Here again, the recesses or cut-outs 31 may be omitted and here again the trays may be of constant width from end-to-end.

In a fourth modification, each tray, display tray and transport tray, is constructed in accordance with the transport tray of the third modification, i.e. with the end flap 24 being of the same length as shown in Fig. 1 and side flap 25 or 26 being the same length as shown in Fig. 1 but with the other side flap being the same length as the end wall panel 28 and side flaps 29 and 30. With this construction each tray will make side and end contact with the other tray, the side

contacts via the side flaps being at opposite ends and sides of the hooded tray.

Once again, the recesses or cut-outs may be omitted and the trays may be of constant width from end-to-end.

In a fifth modification, the end wall panel 24 of one or both trays is of the length shown in Fig. 1 with its side flaps 25, 26 being of the same length as the end wall panel 28 and its side flaps 29, 30. In this case the longer end wall panel or panels 24 makes contact with the shorter end wall panel or panels 28 for location purposes, and for securement if required.

In a sixth modification, the end wall flaps 25, 26 of one or both trays are of the length shown in Fig. 1 with the end wall panel 24 being the same length as the end wall panel 28 and its side flaps 29, 30.

Thus one or both trays is nested between long side flaps of the other when the trays are assembled to form a hooded tray.

In this case, unlike the other modifications, the trays are of tapered width.

In the display and the transport trays 40, 41 of Figs. 6 and 7 the top of the side wall panels is parallel with the bottom of the side wall panels. This need not be so. The top edges may be inclined or slanted or may be of regular or irregular interrupted construction (corrugated or jigsaw configuration) provided that in the assembled hooded tray the side walls of the latter are of closed configuration.

In describing the blanks of Figs. 2 to 5 and the trays erected therefrom, only the differences between them and the blank of Fig. 1 and the trays of Figs. 6 and 7 will be detailed.

Referring to Fig. 2, the blank 50 differs from that of Fig. 1 in that the side flaps 25A, 26A are wider than side flap 25, 26 so that in the erected tray (see Fig. 7) the vertical edges of the upstanding side walls defined by these flaps 25A, 26A butt together as indicated at 51A.

This construction provides hooded trays having increased stacking strength compared with the hooded tray of Fig. 6 where the vertical edges do not abut one another.

Compared with the blank (and erected tray) of Fig. 2 the blank (and erected tray) of Fig. 1 has the advantage that less material

(board) is used to wholly enclose the contained product of a hooded tray assembled therefrom.

Referring now to Fig. 3, the difference in this blank 60 compared with that of Fig. 1 is that cut-outs or recesses 61, 62 are provided in the long side edges of the side wall panels 22B, 23B. Similarly cut-outs or recesses 63, 64 are provided in the corresponding side edges of the side flaps 25B, 26B.

As a result, the erected hooded tray 65 (see Fig. 8) has side windows 66 through which contained products can be viewed and inspected.

Referring now to the blank 70 of Fig. 4, the side wall panels 22C, 23C are of stepped shape, i.e. they are of dual width, as shown, and they are joined to side flaps 25C, 26C by fold lines.

The side flaps 25C, 26C are longer than the end wall panel 24C and are separated therefrom by slits or cuts 53, 54.

The side flaps 25C, 26C each have an intermediate fold line F11, F12 respectively parallel with fold lines F9 and F10 and joining the respective slit 53 or 54 and a cut-out C5 or C6 in the side edge of the respective side flap 25C, 26C.

In erecting this blank 70 to form a tray 71 (see Fig. 9 - a matching tray 72 is shown in ghost lines), the end wall panel 24C is disposed outside with the side flaps 25C, 26C respectively folded about fold lines F9, F11 and F10, F12 so that part of each side flap 25C, 26C lies against the end wall panel 24C with the other part extending inwardly at right angles to the latter to form a divider or partition. The latter is, of course, constituted by two thicknesses of board as shown.

In a hooded tray formed from such blanks the interior is consequently divided into two equal areas of product contaminant.

Also, the upstanding side walls defined by the stepped configuration are of a length that their vertical edges butt in the assembled hooded tray so providing increased stacking strength.

Finally, referring to the blank 80 (Fig. 5), this is designed to form a tray 81 (Fig. 10) having chamfered corners 82 as shown.

To this end, the corners of the main panel 21D are cut off at an angle as indicated at 83, and each side wall panel 22D, 23D has at each end a flap 84, 85 foldable about fold lines F13, F14.

Also, the side flaps 25D, 26D of end wall panel 24D extend laterally beyond the side wall panels 22D, 23D and are formed with intermediate lengthwise fold lines F15 and F16 respectively.

Further the combined width of the end wall panel 28D and its side flaps 29D, 30D is less than that of the main panel 21D and the side wall panels 22D and 23D.

The intermediate fold lines F15, F16 and the angled corners of the main panel 21D allow erection of the blank to provide the tray 81 with the chamfered corners 82 as shown in Fig. 10 at one end, and at the other end the flaps 29D, 85 and 30D, 85 contact with the angled corners to provide the chamfered corners 82 at that end.

Figs. 11 and 12 illustrate a further embodiment of the invention which can be supplied to the end views already glued but folded flat. Fig. 11 shows the blank from which the tray of Fig. 12 can be erected. The blank comprises a main panel 21E, side panels 22E and 23E, end wall panel 24E supporting side flaps 25E and 26E, and end wall panel 28E supporting side flaps 29E and 30E. Fold lines F1 to F8 are provided as in the embodiment of Fig. 1. Further fold lines F17 to F20 are also provided, the fold lines F17 and F19 being inclined at 45° to fold lines F5 and F3 respectively, and the fold lines F18 and F20 being inclined at 45° to fold lines F6 and F4 respectively. The fold lines F17 to F20 intersect the respective corners of the main panel. The main panel 21E is narrower than end panel 24E but wider than end panel 28E. For example, the distance between fold lines F5 and F6 may be 276mm, the distance between fold lines F3 and F4 may be 272mm, and the distance between fold lines F7 and F8 may be 268mm.

Cut-outs C7 to C10 are provided, the lower boundary (in Fig. 1) of each cut-out being downwardly inclined relative to the main panel 21E. The upper boundary (in Fig. 11) of each cut-out defines an upwardly directed triangular notch adjacent the main panel 21E. The configuration of the cut-outs enables folding flat of the erected structure as described below.

When erected, the triangular areas defined between the fold lines F17 to F20 and the respective cut-outs C7 to C10 are glued to the adjacent side panels and side flaps as illustrated in Fig. 12. For example, side flap 25E is glued to the outer face of side wall panel 22E, the glue only being applied to the bottom left hand corner (in

Fig. 11) of side flap 25E such that after gluing the fold line F17 defines a hinge about which the unglued portion of the side flap 25E can swing. Once glued, the erect tray can be folded flat by pushing side wall panels 22E and 23E down onto the main panel 21E, thereby pulling in the side flaps as folding takes place about fold lines F17 to F20. This causes the folding down of the end wall panels about fold lines F1 and F2. Thus, the glued tray can be delivered in a compact form to end users ready glued, and the end users do not need gluing facilities.

CLAIMS

1. A hooded tray comprising two open-topped trays having opposed product-containing and/or enclosing side and end walls and being adapted for detachable open top-to-open top assembly into a closed transport configuration with one at least of the trays presenting an upstanding wall adapted, when the trays are assembled, to make wall-to-wall contact with a side or end wall of the other tray for location or nesting purposes.

2. A hooded tray according to Claim 1, wherein said one tray has opposed upstanding side walls between which an end of the other tray is engaged or nested when the trays are in assembled closed configuration.

3. A hooded tray according to Claim 2, wherein the opposed upstanding side walls are bridged by an upstanding end wall against which the end of the other tray abuts when engaged or nested between the opposed side walls.

4. A hooded tray according to Claim 1, wherein each tray has an upstanding end wall or an upstanding side wall adapted for wall-to-wall contact with an end or side wall of the other tray in assembled closed configuration of the trays.

5. A hooded tray according to Claim 4, wherein each tray has an upstanding side wall adapted for wall-to-wall contact with a side wall of the other tray in the assembled closed configuration, the upstanding side walls being at opposite sides and opposite ends of the assembled hooded tray.

6. A hooded tray according to Claim 5, wherein each upstanding side wall has an adjacent upstanding end wall to provide for each tray an upstanding L-shaped locating configuration for an end of the other tray, the upstanding L-shaped locating configurations in the assembled hooded tray being oppositely-handed.

7. A hooded tray according to Claim 1, wherein the two open-topped trays

are identical and each has, at one end, an upstanding locating or nesting wall adapted, when the trays are assembled in open top-to-open-top closed configuration, to make wall-to-wall contact with a wall of the other tray.

8. A hooded tray according to Claim 7, wherein each tray has at one end two opposed upstanding side walls between which, in assembled condition, the other end of the other tray is engaged or nested.

9. A hooded tray according to Claim 8, wherein each other end of each tray is narrower in width than its said one end to facilitate said engagement or nesting, such that in plan view each tray tapers slightly inwardly from said one end to its other end.

10. A hooded tray according to Claim 8 or 9, wherein the two opposed upstanding side walls of each tray are joined or bridged by a correspondingly upstanding end wall, whereby, in side elevation, each tray is of L-configuration, and, in plan view, each tray at one end has a socket configuration defined by its opposed upstanding side walls and end wall.

11. A hooded tray according to Claim 10, wherein the opposed upstanding side walls of each tray extend half of the length of the tray so that in the assembled hooded tray the edges of the upstanding side walls of the trays abut.

12. A hooded tray according to any preceding claim, wherein opposed side walls of each tray are recessed or are cut out so that in the assembled hooded tray a window is formed in each side whereby the contained products can be readily viewed and/or inspected.

13. A hooded tray according to any preceding claim, wherein each tray is provided with a dividing wall or partition parallel with its side walls and extending for half, or substantially half, of the length of the tray, the dividing walls or partitions in the assembled hooded tray abutting end-to-end to divide the interior thereof into two separate side-by-side areas.

14. A hooded tray according to any preceding claim, wherein each end wall is secured to both side walls such that the side and end walls may be folded flat.

15. A blank for erection to a tray adapted for assembly into a hooded tray according to Claim 1, the blank comprising a main panel constituting the top or bottom of a hooded tray, two opposed side wall panels integral with the main panel at opposite sides thereof, an end wall panel integral with one end of the main panel and having opposed lateral securing flaps, an end wall panel integral with the other end of the main panel and having opposed lateral securing flaps, the length of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps being greater than the length of the former end wall panel and its securing flaps, and the width of the latter end wall panel being greater than the width of the former end wall panel.

16. A blank according to Claim 15, wherein the sum of the widths of the main panel and the two side wall panels is the same as the sum of the widths of each end panel and its respective lateral securing flaps.

17. A blank according to Claim 15, wherein the sum of the widths of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps is greater than the sum of the widths of the main wall panel and the two side panels and is greater than the sum of the widths of the former end wall panel and its securing flaps.

18. A blank according to Claim 17, wherein the sum of the widths of the main panel and the two side panels is equal to the sum of the widths of the former end panel and its securing flaps.

19. A blank according to any one of Claims 15 to 18, wherein the side wall panels and the securing flaps of the latter end wall panel are recessed to define window areas in the tray formed by the erected blank.

20. A blank according to any one of Claims 15 to 19, wherein the side wall panels, for a first part of their lengths, are of greater width than for a second part, the sum of the widths of the first parts of the side

wall panels and the main panel is equal to the sum of the widths of the latter end wall panel and its securing flaps, and the latter end wall panel has integral therewith partition flaps adapted, in the assembled blank, to be contiguous, lie inboard of the latter end wall panel, and be parallel with the side wall panels.

21. A blank according to any one of Claims 15 to 20, wherein the former end wall panel is recessed to provide a viewing or access area in the tray formed by the assembled blank.

22. A blank according to any one of Claims 15 to 21, wherein the main panel has chamfered corners with the side wall panels having end securing flaps and the securing flaps of the latter end wall panel being foldable to provide for chamfered corners in the tray formed by the erected blank.

23. A blank according to claim 15, wherein the main panel is wider than the former end wall panel and narrower than the latter end wall panel.

24. A blank according to claim 23, wherein the lateral securing flaps of the latter end wall panel are foldable about fold lines arranged to intersect the adjacent corners of the main panel such that the lateral securing flaps may be folded double between the main panel and the latter end wall panel, and the side wall panels are foldable about fold lines arranged to intersect respective corners of the main panel adjacent the former end wall panel, cut outs being provided to enable the folding flat of the blank after securing the side wall panels to the lateral securing flaps.

25. A hooded tray substantially as hereinbefore described, by way of example, with reference to Figs. 1 and 6, Figs. 2 and 7, Figs. 3 and 8, Figs. 4 and 9, Figs. 5 and 10 or Figs. 11 and 12 of the accompanying drawings.

26. A blank for erection to a tray adapted for assembly into a hooded tray substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 4, Fig. 5 or Fig. 11 of the accompanying drawings.

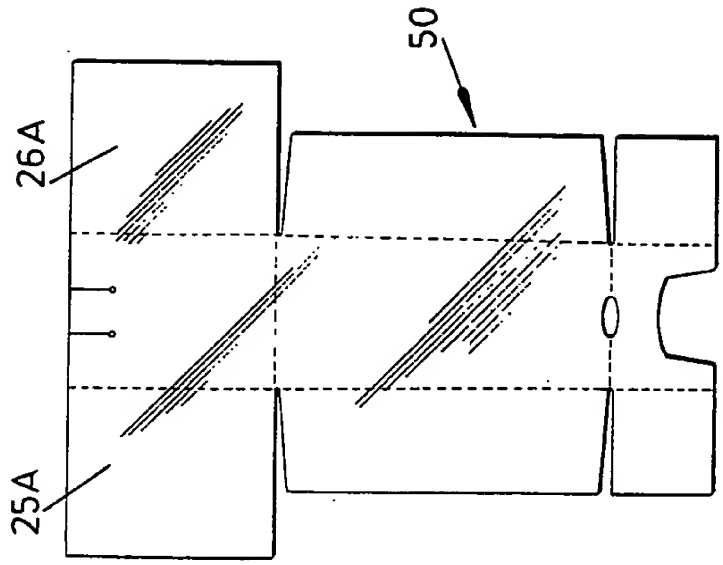
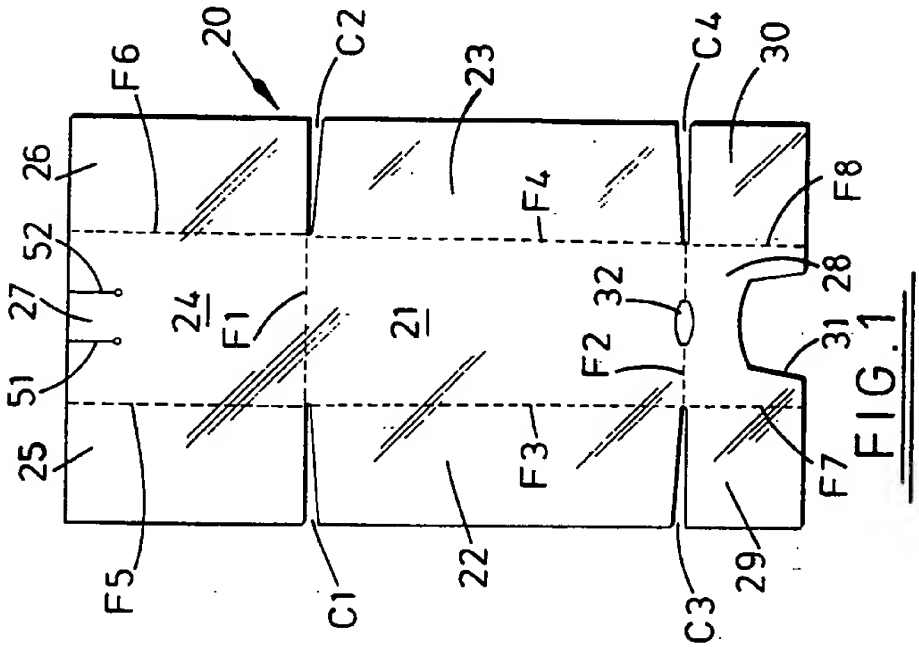

50
26A
25A

FIG. 2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C2
C4
30
F6
23
26
F4
F8
52
28
27
24
F1
21
32
F2
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51
25
F3
F7
F5
C1
22
C3
29

FIG. 1

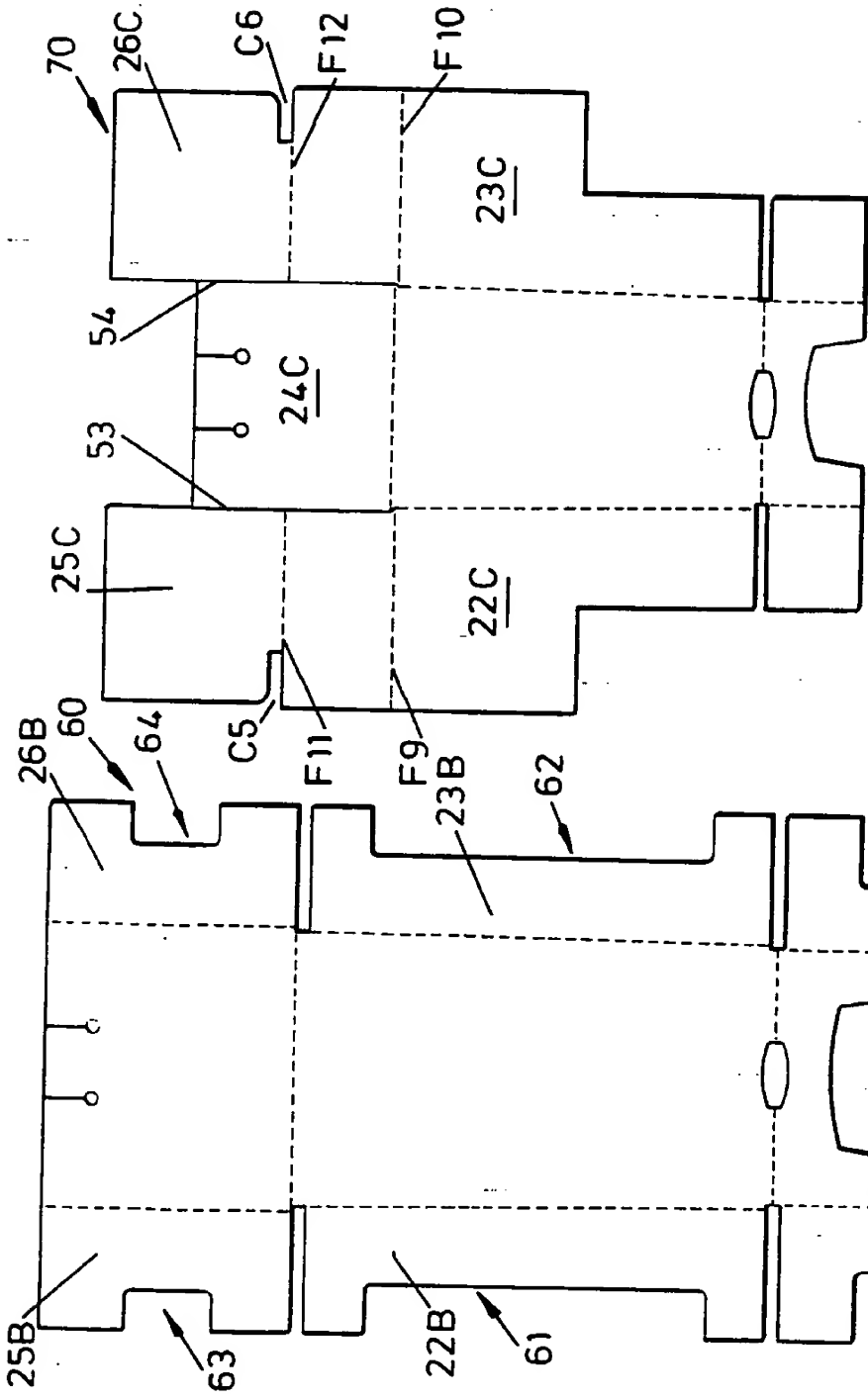
70
26C
C6
F12
F10
23C
54
24C
53
25C
22C
26B
60
64
C5
F11
F9
23B
62
25B
63
22B
61

FIG.4

FIG.3

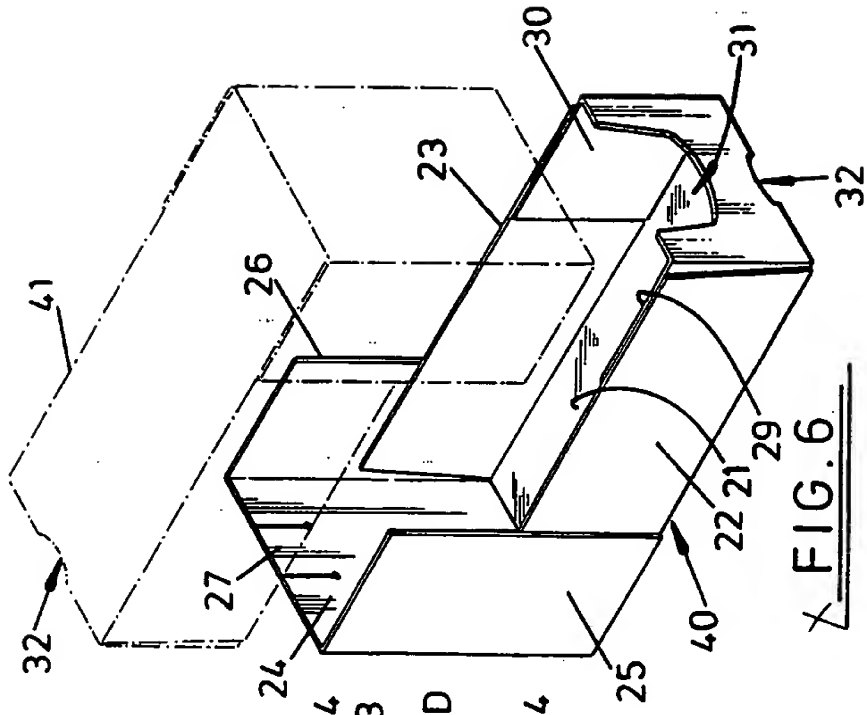
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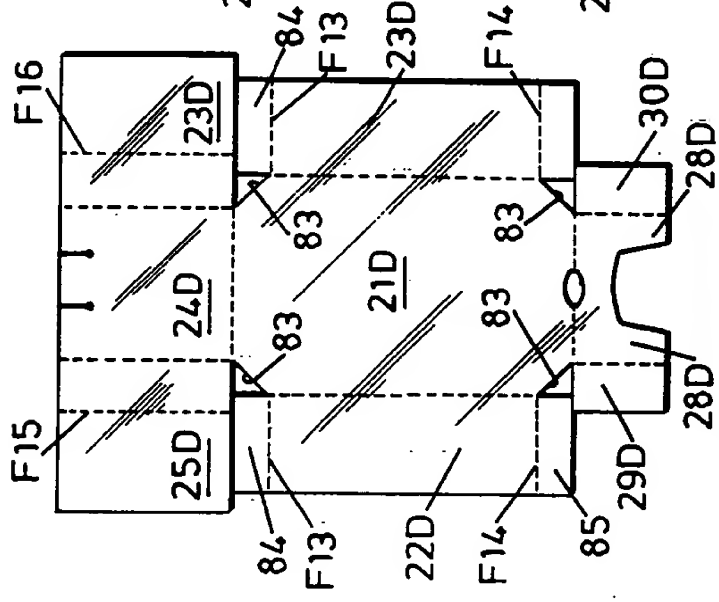
FIG. 6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23D
84
F13
23D
F14
30D
28D
83
83
21D
24D
83
83
F15
25D
28D
29D
84
F13
22D
F14
85

FIG. 5

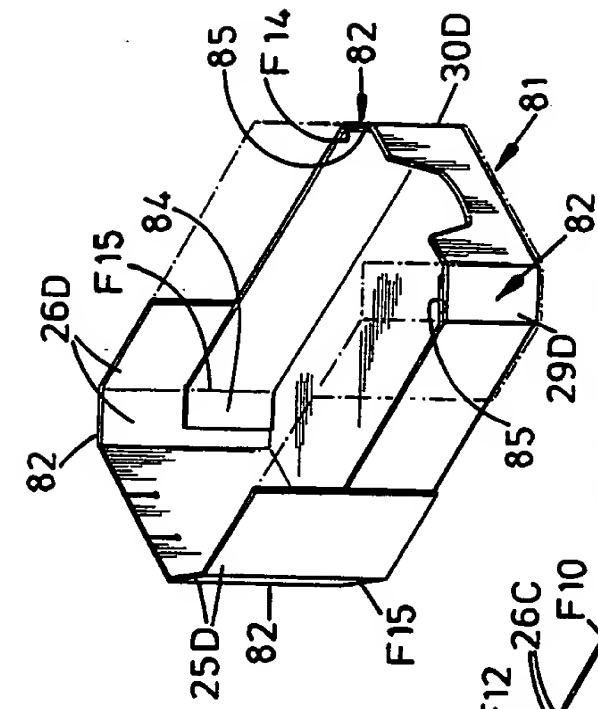


FIG. 10

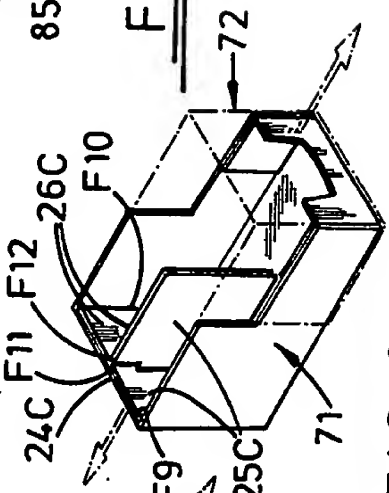


FIG. 9

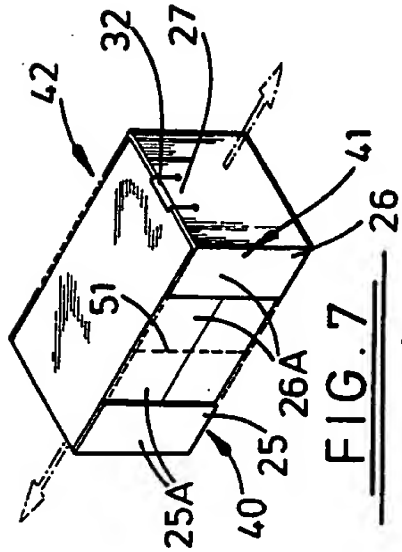


FIG. 7

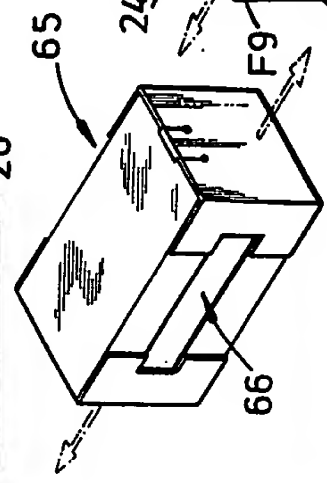
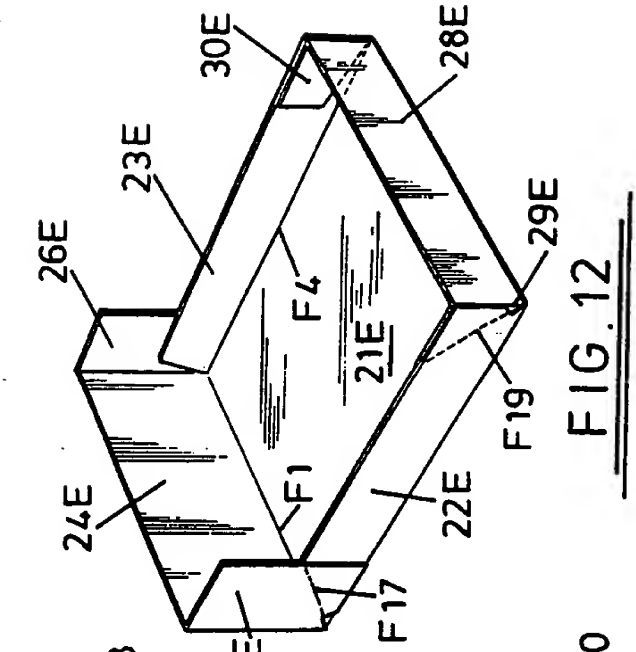


FIG. 8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29E
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21E
F19
F1
24E
22E
F17
25E

FIG. 12

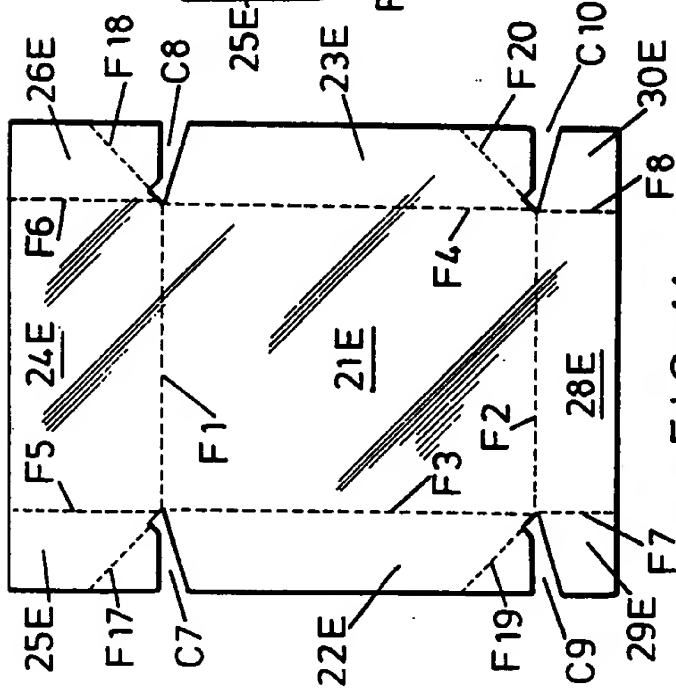
26E
F18
C8
25E
23E
F20
C10
30E
F8
F6
F4
24E
21E
28E
F1
F2
F5
F3
F7
25E
F17
C7
22E
F19
C9
29E

FIG. 11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/GB 92/01611

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all)[6]

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

Int.Cl. 5 B65D5/32; B65D5/52

II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum Documentation Searched[7]

Classification System	Classification Symbols
Int.Cl. 5	B65D

Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched[8]

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT[9]

Category[10]	Citation of Document,[11] with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages[12]	Relevant to Claim No.[13]
X	FR,A,2 063 582 (SOCIETE F. BEGHIN) 9 July 1971 see the whole document	1-11,15, 16,25,26
Y		1,14,15, 24-26
A	FR,A,1 190 156 (CHEVALIER) 31 March 1959 see abstract; figures	1-11,15, 25,26
Y	GB,A,2 206 563 (REED PACKAGING LTD.) 11 January 1989 see abstract; figures	1,14,15, 24-26

[10] Special categories of cited documents :

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report
11 JANUARY 1993	20. 01. 93
International Searching Authority	**Signature of Authorized Officer**
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	GINO C.P.G.

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. GB 9201611 SA 63958

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 11/01/93
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR-A-2063582	09-07-71	None	
FR-A-1190156		None	
GB-A-2206563	11-01-89	None	